

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, BL

SUBJECT: AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE REQUEST

REF: LA PAZ 2837

1. DEPARTMENT AND DOD PREPARED TO CONSIDER GOB REQUEST FOR AIRLIFT SUPPORT. MISSION COULD BE CARRIED OUT BY A C-130 AIRCRAFT OPERATING FROM HOWARD AFB PANAMA; AS ESTIMATED IN REFTTEL, TWO AIRCRAFT MISSIONS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO TRANSPORT DIESEL GENERATOR UNITS. HOWEVER, PROVISION OF SUCH AIRCRAFT SUPPORT, IF APPROVED BY DOD/I&L WOULD BE ON REIMBURSABLE BASIS ONLY; DEPARTMENT IS UNABLE TO ASSURE FUNDING FOR SUCH A MISSION AT THIS TIME. THEREFORE, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO OBTAIN PRIOR GOB ASSURANCES THAT REIMBURSEMENT WOULD BE PROVIDED FOR THESE FLIGHTS. WE ESTIMATE TOTAL COST OF USE OF C-130 AIRCRAFT ON ROUTE PANAMA-SANTA CRUZ-TRINIDAD-PANAMA AT \$29,876 BASED ON \$1,460 PER HOUR NON-GOVERNMENT RATE OVER ESTIMATED NINETEEN HOURS FLYING
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TIME, PLUS \$712 PER DAY CHARGE FOR DEPRECIATION AND INTER-

EST OVER THREE DAYS COVERED BY MISSION.

2. EMBASSY IS ALSO REQUESTED TO CONFIRM THAT NO COMMERCIAL ALTERNATIVE CARRIER, US OR FOREIGN, CHARTER OR SCHEDULED, IS AVAILABLE IN BOLIVIA TO TRANSPORT THIS EQUIPMENT.

JUSTIFICATION FOR USE OF USAF C-130 AIRCRAFT MUST BE BASED ON LACK OF COMMERCIAL ALTERNATIVE, RATHER THAN URGENCY OF REQUIREMENT.

3. UPON RECEIPT OF ABOVE REQUESTED INFORMATION, DEPARTMENT WILL MAKE FORMAL REQUEST TO DOD FOR PROVISION OF USAF AIR-LIFT SUPPORT. KISSINGER

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